

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

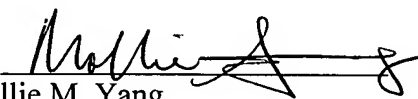
In the office action the Examiner indicates that claims 1-35 are pending in the application. Applicants wish to point out that a preliminary amendment of the claims was submitted concurrent with the filing of the national application under 35 USC 371, and as a result of the amendment claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 14, 16, 20-26, 28, 32, 34 and 35 remained in this application. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned if there is any question regarding the preliminary amendment of January 23, 2006.

After the amendment presented in the instant response, claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 14, 16, 20-24, 26, 28, 32, 34, 35 and 36 are now pending. Claim 1 has been amended to include the group -C₃₋₆cycloalkyl as a substituent for Aryl/HAR, and as a choice for R^a. The amendment is supported by original claim 22. Claim 25 has been canceled without prejudice. Claims 28 and 34 have been amended to depend from claim 26. New claim 36 is supported by the specification at, e.g., page 20, second full paragraph and page 28, first full paragraph. No new matter is added by the current amendment and its entry is respectfully requested.

Lack of Unity

In response to the alleged lack of unity, and to the Examiner's invitation for Applicants to identify another group not listed in the office action, Applicants hereby elect Applicant devised **Group XI** (claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 14, 16, and 20-24) drawn to compounds of formula I where **d** is zero; **e** is 1; **X** is oxygen; **Y** is quinolinyl; and all other variables are as defined in Claim 1. As indicated by the Examiner if the elected product claims are found allowable, the method claims, which should include new claim 36, will be rejoined.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Mollie M. Yang
Reg. No. 32,718
Attorney for Applicants

MERCK & CO., Inc.
P.O. Box 2000
Rahway, New Jersey 07065-0900
Tel.: (732) 594-6343

Date: October 25, 2007